

His Majesties Letters to the Bishop of *London* and the Lord Mayor.

To the Right Reverend Father in God, Our
Right Trusty and Well-beloved Counsellor,
HENRY Bishop of London.

CHARLES R.

Right Reverend Father in God, Our Right trusty and Well-beloved Counsellor, We greet you well. Whereas We are given to understand that a great number of Persons and whole Families of Protestants in the Kingdom of *France* have lately withdrawn themselves from thence to avoid those hardships and extremities which are brought upon them there for the sake of their Religion, and have betaken themselves into this Our Kingdom as a place of refuge, where they may enjoy the liberty and security of their Persons and Consciences. And whereas most of them, if not all, having been forced to abandon their native abodes and accommodations in haste and confusion, must needs be in a great measure destitute of means for their present subsistence and relief. We being touched with a true sense and compassion of their deplorable condition, and looking upon them not only as distressed Strangers, but chiefly as persecuted Protestants, very desirous to extend Our Royal Favour, and protection towards them, not doubting but all Our good and loving Subjects will be also willing and forward on their parts to afford them what helps and comforts they can in this their day of Affliction. We do therefore in very especial manner recommend their case unto your pious consideration and care, hereby requiring you forthwith to give Directions unto all the Clergy of Our City of *London* and parts adjacent, that in their solemn Congregations upon the next Lords day, or as soon as may be possible, they represent the sad state of these poor People, and by the most effectual Arguments of Christian charity excite their Parishioners to contribute freely towards the supply of their necessities. We shall not need to press you in this behalf, well knowing your Zeal in so good a work, which will be no less pleasing to Us, than We are sure it will be acceptable to Almighty God. And Our further pleasure is, that you take care that the moneys so collected (which We expect should be forthwith returned into your hands) be distributed in such manner as may best answer those ends, for which this collection is intended. And so We bid you heartily farewell. Given at Our Court at *Windfor* the 22th day of *July*, 1681. in the Three and Thirtieth year of Our Reign.

By his Majesties Command,

L. Jenkins.

To Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Sir
Patience Ward Knight, Lord Mayor of
Our City of London.

CHARLES R.

Right Trusty and Well-beloved We greet you well.
Being given to understand that very many Prote-
stants, and even whole Families, finding themselves
under great pressures and persecutions in the King-
dom of *France* for the sake of their Religion, have
chosen rather to leave their native Country and conveniences
than to hazard the ruine of their Consciences, and therefore
great numbers of them are come, and more are endeavouring
every day to come into this Kingdom for Shelter and Security.
We are very desirous that here they should not only meet with all
kind reception, but also with that benevolence and charity which
may in some reasonable measure contribute towards their present
relief and comfort in this their Affliction. To which end
We have signified Our pleasure to the Bishop of *London*, requi-
ring him to give directions unto the Clergy of that Our City
and places adjacent, to represent the sad condition of these poor
People in their solemn Congregations, and also to excite their
Parishioners to the free and chearful relief of their distressed
Brethren. But as we cannot have too many hands employed in
so good a work, so We have thought fit to recommend the same
unto you also, that by your encouragement and endeavour Our
good Subjects inhabiting in that Our City may be induced and
obliged to a more than ordinary demonstration of their compas-
sion and liberality on this occasion. And so We bid you heartily
farewel. Given at Our Court at *Windsor* the 22th. day of *July*,
1681. in the Three and Thirtieth year of Our Reign.

By his Majesties Command,

L. Jenkins.